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— Thanks to the interest taken in the young and vigorous Academy of Science at Davenport, Iowa, by one or two of the citizens and members, a new building well adapted to the wants of the Society has just been finished, one or two meetings having been held in it. The second part of its Proceedings will appear at an early date.

— Capt. Howgate's bill for establishing a Polar Colony has met with a favorable hearing by the Congressional committee, and it seems most probable that Congress will appropriate \$50,000 for the undertaking, which promises so much for the advancement of Polar research.

— The third session of the Summer School of Biology will be opened at the Museum of the Peabody Academy of Science, Salem, Mass., beginning July 5th, and continuing six weeks. A lecture will be given each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9 A. M., the remainder of the time to be given to laboratory work and demonstrations, as it is designed to make the course a practical one, so that teachers may learn the *method of study and teaching in Natural History*. During the present session special attention will be given to Entomology, the study of Spiders and Crustacea, as well as the Anatomy of Vertebrates, and the study of Animal Tissues.

Instruction in Zoology will be given by Dr. A. S. Packard, Jr., with the assistance of Messrs. Charles Sedgwick Minot, James H. Emerton, and J. S. Kingsley. Mr. Minot will lecture on Histology and on the Anatomy of Vertebrates. Mr. Emerton will lecture on Spiders, Scorpions and Mites, Mr. Kingsley on the Crustacea, and Dr. Packard will give a course of lectures on the lower animals and the Insects. Rev. Dr. Bolles will give a series of six afternoon lectures on Microscopy, at 3 P. M., beginning July 12.

For further information apply to A. S. Packard, Jr., Director, Peabody Academy of Science, Salem, Mass.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY. — March 6. Mr. S. H. Scudder made a communication on *Prodryas*, a new fossil butterfly from the tertiary beds of Colorado.

On March 20, Prof. A. H. Niles read some notes upon the erosive power of the glaciers and sub-glacial streams of the Alps, based on a summer's exploration. He took the view that a large part of the erosive action was carried on by the running water of the sub-glacial streams, rather than by the ice itself, which, however, accomplished the polishing and scratching. Dr. David Hunt spoke of a possible cause of prognathism.

April 3d.—Prof. B. G. Wilder exhibited living specimens of *Amia*, and spoke of its ærial respiration, and Mr. S. H. Scudder remarked on the early life of some tertiary insects, and particularly on the eggs of a fossil *Corydalus* (hellgramite).